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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/520,435	03/08/2000	J. Andrew Goossen	113638.02	1997

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MICROSOFT CORPORATION
ONE MICROSOFT WAY
REDMOND, WA 98052-6399

EXAMINER

BOUTAH, ALINA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/05/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/520,435	GOOSSEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alina N Boutah	2143	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-11,13,14,26-32 and 44-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-11,13,14,26-32 and 44-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This action is in response to the Applicant's amendment received April 25, 2007. Claims 1-4, 7-11, 13-14, 26-32 and 44-46 are currently pending in the present application.

Double Patenting

Due to Applicant's amendment, the nonstatutory double patenting rejection is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 13-14 are not limited to tangible embodiments. In view of Applicant's disclosure, specification page 8, line 7 through page 9, line 5, the medium is not limited to tangible embodiments, instead being defined as including both tangible embodiments (e.g., RAM, ROM, EEPROM, flash memory, etc.) and intangible embodiments (e.g., program modules and data signal such as a carrier wave, acoustic, RF, infrared and other wireless media). As such, the claim is not limited to statutory subject matter and is therefore non-statutory. Although Applicant has amended the claim to recite "tangible" computer-readable medium, the specification still does not preclude the mediums from being defined as i.e. program modules and data signal such

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as a carrier wave, acoustic, RF, infrared and other wireless media. In order to overcome this rejection, Applicant must amend the specification to preclude these media.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 26-32 and 44-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,538,758 issued to Ikegawa in view of USPN 6,711,294 issued to Hamzy.

Regarding claim 1, Ikegawa teaches a method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data file from a software application running within the computer system to a printer in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

receiving at a device driver on the computer system a request sent from an application inquiring about whether a type of compression is supported (col. 12, lines 27-49); determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49); and if the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file, obtaining the compressed data file from the software application (col. 12, lines 27-49).

However, Ikegawa does not explicitly teach determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining

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whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression; if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported.

In an analogous art, Hamzy teaches: determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression (abstract);

if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported (abstract).

At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to determine both whether the printer and the device driver are capable of decompressing the type of compression in order to quickly determine the decompression availability, thus increasing printing speed while reducing processing time (Hamzy: col. 1, lines 13-15).

Regarding claim 2, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said receiving a request to transfer a compressed data file includes receiving a data structure from the software application, the data structure containing an indication of a classification of the compressed data file format and a pointer to the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49).

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Regarding claim 3, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file further comprises: obtaining a device file decompression configuration data structure, the data structure containing data indicative of compressed data file formats supported by the printer; and determining whether the file decompression configuration data structure indicates whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49).

Regarding claim 4, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file includes: passing a compressed data file pointer to the device; and receiving an indication whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49).

Regarding claim 7, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image (col. 13, lines 7-14).

Regarding claim 8, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 7, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG image (col. 13, lines 7-14).

Regarding claim 10, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 1 further comprising receiving an uncompressed data file from the software application if the printer is not configured to receive the compressed data file (col. 13, lines 7-14).

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Regarding claim 13, Ikegawa teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable components comprising:

(a) a device support query component that, when executed, determines whether a printer is configured to decompress a compressed data file associated with an application (col. 12, lines 27-49);

(b) an application interface component that, when executed, receives the compressed data file from the application (col. 12, lines 27-49); and

(c) a device interface component for transferring the compressed data file to the printer (col. 12, lines 27-49).

However, Ikegawa does not explicitly teach determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression; if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported.

In an analogous art, Hamzy teaches: determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression (abstract);

if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported (abstract).

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At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to determine both whether the printer and the device driver are capable of decompressing the type of compression in order to quickly determine the decompression availability, thus increasing printing speed while reducing processing time (Hamzy: col. 1, lines 13-15).

Regarding claim 14, Ikegawa teaches one or more computer-readable media of claim 13, wherein said application interface component further comprises a compressed data file information transformation component that, when executed, manipulates data within the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49).

Regarding claim 26, Ikegawa teaches a method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data file from a software application running within the computer system to a printer in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

requesting a determination whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49);

receiving a response whether the printer is so configured (col. 12, lines 27-49); and

if the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file, transferring the compressed data file to the device (col. 12, lines 27-49).

However, Ikegawa does not explicitly teach determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression; if it is

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determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported.

In an analogous art, Hamzy teaches: determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression (abstract);

if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported (abstract).

At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to determine both whether the printer and the device driver are capable of decompressing the type of compression in order to quickly determine the decompression availability, thus increasing printing speed while reducing processing time (Hamzy: col. 1, lines 13-15).

Regarding claim 27, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 26, wherein said requesting includes passing a pointer to the compressed data file and a indication of a type of compressed data file to the computer system (col. 11, lines 52-54).

Regarding claim 28, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 26, wherein said transferring includes passing the compressed data file to the printer via a data structure (col. 11, lines 52-54).

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Regarding claim 30, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 26, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image file (col. 13, lines 7-14).

Regarding claim 31, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 30, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG compressed data image file (col. 13, lines 7-14).

Regarding claims 9 and 32, Ikegawa fails to explicitly teach the compressed data image file as recited in claims 7, 30, and 42, respectively, as being a PNG compressed data image file. Hamzy teaches the compressed data image file being a PNG (col. 8, line 8). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to support PNG compressed data image file expand the capability of the transferring of the compressed data from a software application to a device.

Regarding claim 44, Ikegawa teaches a method in a computer system for rendering a compressed data file on a printer in communication with a computer system, said method comprising:

receiving a request to send a compressed data file to the printer (col. 12, lines 27-49);

determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49); and

if the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file, sending the compressed data file to the printer (col. 12, lines 27-49).

However, Ikegawa does not explicitly teach determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression; if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported.

In an analogous art, Hamzy teaches: determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression (abstract);

if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress the type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported (abstract).

At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to determine both whether the printer and the device driver are capable of decompressing the type of compression in order to quickly determine the decompression availability, thus increasing printing speed while reducing processing time (Hamzy: col. 1, lines 13-15).

Regarding claim 45, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 45, wherein receiving said request includes receiving a data structure from the software application, the data structure containing an indication of a type of the compressed data file and a pointer to the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-29).

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Regarding claim 46, Ikegawa teaches the method as recited in claim 46, wherein said determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file further comprises:

obtaining a decompressed-configured data structure, the data structure containing data indicative of compressed-data-file formats supported by the device (col. 12, lines 27-49); and

determining whether the file decompressing-configuration data structure indicates whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 12, lines 27-49).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

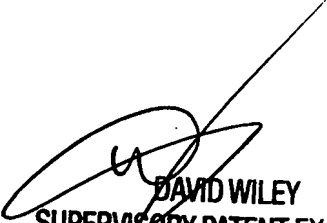
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alina N. Boutah whose telephone number is 571-272-3908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (9:00 am - 5:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on 571-272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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